



STATE OF INDIANA
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For Immediate Release

Man Found Guilty of Attacking Excise Officer at Bar

MUNCIE, Ind. (Oct. 2) – An Anderson man was found guilty of three charges yesterday after an attack on an excise officer at a Muncie bar in March.

A jury found Branden Lee Farmer, 19, guilty of battery on law enforcement, a class D felony, battery with bodily injury, a class D felony, and disorderly conduct, a class A misdemeanor.

On March 3, several people attacked an excise officer while he was making an arrest at Doc's Music Hall, 215 S. Walnut, in Muncie. Farmer jumped onto the officer's back and struck him with a closed fist on the back of his head.

Delaware County Circuit Court 1 Judge Marianne Vorhees ordered Farmer held on \$20,000 bond pending a sentencing hearing on Oct. 15.

Three other defendants in this incident have pending trial dates.

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.